

Colonel Grogan Speaker at Dinner

Newsmen, Elks Given 'Look' at CIA

Regional newsmen and members of the Scranton Elks Thursday night got somewhat of an inside look at the super-secret Central Intelligence Agency at the 12th annual National Newspaper Week dinner at the Elks Club. Approximately 115 attended.

The principal speaker at the dinner, which followed a cocktail hour at the club, was Col. Stanley J. Grogan, a CIA official, a native of Archbald and a former Scranton newspaper man.

After pointing out that the intelligence activities since the days of George Washington, but that only since World War II, has

this work been systematized on a government-wide basis, Colonel Grogan went over the birth of the agency and its history to the present.

Noting that "The Central Intelligence Agency does not duplicate or rival the existing intelligence agencies of State, Army, Navy and Air Force, he said, "It (CIA) makes maximum use of the resources of existing agencies. It helps put an end to unnecessary duplication."

Colonel Grogan went on to point out the agency's place in the federal government.

"The Central Intelligence Agency," he said, "is part of the com-

plex of departments within the Federal Government that are responsible for the security of the nation.

"The organization and structure of the government in this whole area reflect a recognition of the close relationship between diplomatic, military, and other elements of foreign policy.

"Within this national security area, the Central Intelligence Agency is the organization which insures that the information flowing to the President and his principal advisers on foreign policy — the National Security Council — is timely, consistent and complete."

Colonel Grogan, noting that the director of Central Intelligence is the principal adviser to the President and the National Security Council on all matters of intelligence related to the national security, pointed out that the director has to cope with the problem of secrecy.

"Because of this secrecy—required by law and by considerations of national safety — the Central Intelligence Agency," he said, "does not confirm or deny published reports, whether good or bad; never alibis; never explains its organization; never identifies its personnel (except for the few in the top echelon); and will not discuss its budget, its methods of operations, or its sources of information."

Colonel Grogan went on to point out that although the agency's activities are not subject to public inspection and review, the CIA is directly accountable to Presidential authority and control.

In conclusion, he quoted a speech by President Eisenhower given Nov. 2, 1953:

"By its very nature, the work of this (CIA) agency demands of

its members the highest order of dedication, ability, trustworthiness—to say nothing of the finest type of courage, whenever needed."

Speaking for the newsmen was Thomas J. Moran, general manager of The Scranton Times who pointed to the newspapers' role in the freedom of our country.

"Freedom," Mr. Moran said, "has never come easy to any people. America had to struggle to get it in the first place and it has been a constant struggle to maintain this freedom."

Pointing to the role of the press, "a press whose freedom is guaranteed by the constitution," Mr. Moran looked at some of the areas in which the press helps to keep us free.

"Newspapers," he said, "guard freedom by keeping you and your fellow Americans informed—by telling you what's going on in your local community, nation and the world."

He then pointed to the aid the press gives to the economic situation by aiding manufacturers find markets and thus make a better way of life for all of us by keeping our productivity high. ...

Contrasting this country with countries behind the Iron Curtain, Mr. Moran said, "Tyranny cannot stand criticism and this is the reason that every tyrannical government moves first to muzzle the press."

In conclusion, he noted that the newspaper of today is a record of what tomorrow will be history and thus, while the press guards freedom today, the newspaper is at the same time guaranteeing the freedom of future generations by providing the guidance of past experiences.

"The newspaper," he said, "is the faithful servant of truth, justice and democracy; it is freedom's guardian."

Earlier in the day Colonel Grogan was escorted to City Hall by the Elks dinner committee and a detail of motorcycle police where a reception for the CIA official was held in the office of Mayor James T. Hanlon.

The invocation and benediction were offered by George J. Murdock, chaplain, Scranton Lodge of Elks, and Edward J. Gerrity, managing editor of the Scranton Times, was toastmaster.

Remarks were given by Jerome I. Myers, general chairman, and J. E. Cunningham Jr., exalted ruler of the Elks, who presented Colonel Grogan with a plaque for his years of service.

Musical selections were given by the Elks Quartet.

CPYRGHT



ELKS HONOR AREA NEWSMEN—Principals at the 12th annual National Newspaper Week dinner Thursday night at Scranton Elks Club. Seated from left: Edward J. Lynett, editor and publisher of The Scranton Times; I. E. Cunningham Jr., exalted ruler of Elks; Col. Stanley J. Grogan, principal speaker and recipient of the service plaque; Mayor James T. Hanlon, Edward J. Gerrity, toastmaster and managing editor of The Times, and

Atty. Jerome I. Myers, general chairman. Standing from left: Thomas J. Moran, general manager of The Times; Col. Lester W. Kale, commanding officer of Tobyhanna Signal Depot; Herman S. Goodman, co-publisher of The Tribune-Scrantonian; Robert J. Arthur, editor of The Tribune-Scrantonian; George J. Murdock, Elks chaplain; William S. Gould, Elks Club secretary; Edward J. Donohoe, city editor of The Times, and B. B. Powell, managing editor of The Tribune-Scrantonian.

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